Copy

Northampton, July 19, 1848.

My Dear Friend:

Sorely was I disappointed in not seeing you and Caroline, before I left Boston, as I fully intended to do, by going down to Weymouth; but I found so many things "to see to," preparatory to my departure for this place, as to employ every moment of my time. And here I am at the Water Cure establishment, fairly committed to this liquid mode of treatment, having taken the initiatory step yesterday morning. The experience of the first day runs thus: — a half bath (which I should consider a whole one and a quarter) at 5 o'clock, A.M.; rubbed down with a wet sheet thrown over the body at 11 o'clock; a sitz bath at 4, P.M; a foot-bath at half past 8, P.M; and at 5 this morning, a shallow bath, which is to be followed at 11 by a spray baptism. And so on to the end. Thus far I have not winced, nor uttered a sigh or groan. But this is only child's play at present, and therefore I may not boast. The weather is warm and beautiful, and it will require some time to bring on a "crisis." At every such period, great faith and resolution are necessary — just as at every pro-slavery outbreak. I have told Dr Ruggles, that if he will rid me of my humor, he shall have all my wit as a perquisite, though I expect to be in any but a witty state of mind when the former is fully developed.

How to feel resigned to your separation from our little anti-Slavery band by a foreign residence of years, I scarcely know; but I know that the step has not been hastily taken on your part, and that there is not water enough in the Atlantic Ocean to quench the flame of your philanthropy. At home or abroad, you will be equally untiring to promote that sacred cause in which you have so long and so effectively labored. Still, we shall miss you more than words can express. We have few suggestive, creative, executive minds; and

such is yours, in an eminent degree. Your absence, therefore, will not be the absence of one individual, but of many in one. How joyfully I testify to the clearness of your vision in the darkest hours! to the serenity and bravery of your spirit in the most perilous times! to the steadfastness of your faith when almost all others were faltering! to your uncompromising adherence to principle, under the most powerful temptations! How immensely indebted am I to you for counsel, encouragement, commendation, and support! How could the Liberator have been sustained through such a conflict without your powerful co-operation? Where would have been the Boston Female Anti-Slavery Society but for yourself? How could the Massachusetts and American Anti Slavery Societies have put forth such exertions, independently of your own? The National Bazaar — what does it not owe to you? I know what others have done — what sacrifices they have made, what labors bestowed, what impulses they have given — (I speak with special reference to the women in our cause) — and I remember them all with gratitude and admiration; but your position and influence have been pre-eminently valuable. — But I must quit this strain — it seems too much as if I were writing a biographical notice. Accept my thanks, fervent but poor, for all that you have done. Thus far, in battling for the right, and in contending with "principalities and powers, and spiritual wickedness in high places," and in detecting what is spurious under the guise of abolitionism, and in rebuking treachery and profligacy of conduct on the part of those who, for a time, run well, we have seen eye to eye, and stood side by side. May we continue to do so while we have breath!

I did not write so many introductory letters as I wished to do — but I hope you have received those which I left with Mr. Wallcut) — but, on your arrival in London, our beloved friend George Thompson will enable you to see every one with whom you may desire to have an interview, either for your personal gratification, or the ad-

vancement of the cause of the slave. Proffer my heart's best affections to G. J., and assure him that he is a part of my existence, and that I watch all his movements with the deepest interest. I have never congratulated him on his election to a seat in the House of Commons, because I do not know by what oath or affirmation he may be bound, so far as fealty to the government is concerned; and because I have been somewhat apprehensive lest it should contract, rather than enlarge, his sphere of usefulness as a popular reformer, and a world-embracing philanthropist. It is a long time since I received a letter from him, and two or three of mine remain unanswered, if he ever received them; but I know that no mortal is more busily occupied than himself, and that his home correspondence is immense, to say nothing of his multifarious public duties and private engagements. Why I chiefly desire a letter from him, as soon as convenient, is, that I may know, for the artist's sake, what disposal has been made of Page's paintings, that were committed to his care a year ago last spring. I feel some degree of responsibility in regard to those paintings; and never having been able to give Mr Page any information respecting them, since they were sent, it has been a source of much embarrassment to me. Pray give my most friendly and cordial remembrances to Mrs Thompson and all the dear children. On gazing, the other day, in Boston, at Bayne's panoramic view of London and the Thames, it seemed as if I was really there again in bodily form, and could call on G. J. and his family at any moment.

I hope you and Caroline will not fail to see our much attached friend William H. Ashurst and his charming family at Muswell Hill, a perfect gem of a place, quite equal to Paradise before the fall. You will be delighted with them all, and they will be immensely gratified to see you. I cherish for Mr Ashurst

a profound regard, as a rare man on earth. His ability is unquestionable and great, his philanthropy expansive, his spirit catholic, his practical knowledge of men and things uncommon, his philosophy serene and comprehensive, and his perception of truth quick and steady. A most attentive and valuable corespondent of the Liberator has he proved for a long time past; and may it be a long time to come before his favors in that line will cease.

Should you happen to see dear Elizabeth Pease, (and I trust you will not fail doing so,) say every thing to her, for me, in the shape of good wishes, grateful remembrances, admiring reminiscences, &c. &c. Her sympathetic letter respecting the death of our dear little Lizzie was a cordial to the heart of Helen, and very strengthening to my own. What would the world be without such friendship? I know that she will be highly gratified on hearing that I am at last trying the "Water cure".

Pray visit Bristol, if you can, to see that perfect gentleman, kind friend, and active friend of our cause, Mr Estlin, and also his accomplished daughter and others in that place, who have an abiding and a choice place in my memory.

Then as to the friends in Sheffield, Edinburgh, Glasgow, Belfast, and Dublin, &c. &c. to which of them do I not desire to be warmly remembered, should you see any of them?

How delighted will our cherished friend Mary G. Chapman be to embrace both you and Caroline, and the children, on the other side of the Atlantic! Alas! that I cannot be there too! Farewell! Yours, with undying regard,

M. W. Chapman. Wm Lloyd Garrison.

July 19- 1848

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